

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the patent application.

Claims 1-15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (new): A strap tensioner, comprising:

a tensioning strap; and

a tensioning device having a winding body for the tensioning strap, a toothed locking wheel associated with the winding body and having a locking toothing arrangement, a driving pawl associated with a driving lever, a locking pawl, wherein engagement of the driving pawl and the locking pawl with the locking toothing arrangement and repeated movement of the driving lever rotates the winding body with directional locking, and the winding body having a spring accumulator acting in a winding-up direction and, as a storage reel, accommodates substantially an entire length of the tensioning strap which has an end connected fixedly to the winding body;

wherein the driving lever and a handle, which is connected fixedly to a tensioning-device housing, are associated with one another in a tong-like manner, and wherein the driving lever can be displaced in the direction of the handle counter to a force of a restoring spring thereby applying a tensioning force.

Claim 17 (new): The strap tensioner according to claim 16, further comprising a release lever associated with the handle and which releases the locking pawl .

Claim 18 (new): The strap tensioner according to claim 16, wherein the driving lever in a rest position is not in engagement with the locking toothing arrangement.

Claim 19 (new): The strap tensioner according to claim 18, wherein the spring accumulator is capable of winding up the strap automatically when the driving lever is located in the rest position and the release lever is brought into a release position.

Claim 20 (new): The strap tensioner according to claim 16, wherein the winding body consists of plastics material and is disposed in the housing which is substantially entirely closed and has a through-passage slot for the tensioning strap and operating openings for the driving pawl and a release lever associated with the locking pawl.

Claim 21 (new): The strap tensioner according to claim 16, wherein a free end of the tensioning strap has a hook for hooking onto the tensioning-device housing.

Claim 22 (new): The strap tensioner according to claim 16, wherein the toothed locking wheel is formed by an annular punched metal part which is positioned in a form-fitting manner in an end wall of the winding body.

Claim 23 (new): The strap tensioner according to claim 16, wherein the driving lever has fork-like arms which are articulated on an outside of the housing.

Claim 24 (new): A gripping jaw comprising:

two angled legs, each angled leg having on an outside a portion for disposing the leg on a tensioning strap in a longitudinally displaceable manner, an inside of each leg forming a gripping surface for butting against a workpiece, the two angled legs associated with one another in a pivotable manner and connected integrally to one another by a hinge, rear stiffening ribs which are associated with each gripping jaw and between which the tensioning strap is guided, the stiffening ribs having overlapping portions which engage over the hinge, and wedged ribs which are disposed between the stiffening ribs and on which the tensioning strap is guided.

Claim 25 (new): The gripping jaw according to claim 24, wherein the overlapping portions form stop edges which, in an opened-out position of the two angled legs, engage against counter stops of the respectively other angled leg.